



Attorney's Docket No. UNIQA-0028

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

5 In re application of: Sharif et al.
Serial No.: 09/901,544
Filed: 07/08/2001
For: " System and Method for Internet Appliance Data Entry
and Navigation "
10 Group No.: 2673
Examiner: Dharia, Prabodh M.

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BRIEF ON APPEAL

25 **Real Party in Interest:** The real parties in interest are the applicants Imran Sharif, Noor A.
Kadir, Glen Edward Ivey, Norman Waseq, William Knapp, and John Bremsteller.

Related Appeals and Interferences: A first appeal in this matter has been rendered moot
because the Examiner has withdrawn the rejection (current Office action at bottom of page
30 8).

Status of Claims: Claims 1 – 20 are pending, rejected, and are the subject of this appeal.

Status of Amendments: No amendment was filed subsequent to final rejection.

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Summary of Claimed Subject Matter:

Claims 1 – 6, 10, 11, 14 and 15 define an Internet appliance that takes the form of set top box permitting a user to employ a hand-held device, such as a TV remote or a wireless telephone, to create a reduced keyset keystroke sequence for text entry, text editing, browsing and hyperlink navigation (specification at page 5, lines 21 – 30). An ordinary television set is used as a display device (108 of FIG. 1).

Claims 7 – 9 define multiple keystroke sequences used for data entry from a reduced keyset input device (FIG. 2 and specification from page 7, line 20 through page 8, line 11). Claims 12 and 13 define use of an infrared coupled hand-held device for data entry (102 of FIG. 1).

Claims 16 – 20 define a voice-to-text/control interface for creating a keystroke sequence for use with the system of claim 1 (FIG. 13).

Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal:

1. Claims 1 – 6, 10, 11, 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over De Boor et al. (US 6,675,204 B2) in view of Allport (US 6,104,334).
2. Claims 7 – 9, 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over De Boor (US 6,675,204 B2) in view of Allport (US 6,104,334) as applied to claims 1 – 6, 10, 11, 14 and 15 above, and further in view of Mankovitz (US 5,949,492).
3. Claims 16 – 20 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over De Boor et al. (US 6,675,204 B2) in view of Allport (US 6,104,334) as applied to claims 1 – 6, 10, 11, 14 and 15 above, and further in view of Yablon (US 5,764,731).

Argument:

- A. Claims 1 – 6, 10, 11, 14 and 15 are patentable over DeBoor et al. (US 6,675,204) in view of Allport (US 6,104,334).**

Claim 1 defines a system for text entry, text editing, and hyperlink navigation. The claim is to a combination of (1) a reduced keyset keystroke sequence and (2) hardware elements that utilize such a sequence to permit a user to input and edit text, and to browse

and navigate system stored user display screens. Results are displayed on an ordinary television set. The appellants' FIG. 11 best illustrates claim 1.

The apparatus of claim 1 (FIG. 11) includes a keystroke sequence receiver 1106, indicating that the keystroke sequence 1102 originates in a separate part of the system not
5 included within the hardware elements of claim 1.

Claim 2 adds a reduced keyset user input device to the system (102 of FIG. 1; see also FIG. 3). Claim 14 identifies the input device as a standard wireless telephone, suggesting that the telephone keypad is the source of the reduced keyset keystroke
10 sequence. Claim 15 indicates that the keystroke sequence receiver is adapted for receiving a standard wireless telephone transmission, reinforcing the idea that the keystroke sequence originates in a part of the system separate from the hardware elements of claim 1.

15 Claim 4 provides a communication network means for accessing the stored user display screens via the browser, which is part of the claim 1 apparatus. Thus, the user display screens are located within the system but beyond the claim 1 hardware elements. And the connection between the claim 1 apparatus and the user display screens is via a network connection (FIG. 1), suggesting these screens are remotely located. The
20 appellants' FIG. 11 illustrates this arrangement.

Claim 5 gives a name to the hardware elements of claim 1. Claim 5 defines that name as an Internet appliance (1104 of FIG. 11) which includes the keystroke receiver 1106, the sequence parser 1108, the browser 1110, and a converter 1118 for output to the
25 ordinary television set. Thus, all the elements of claim 1, except for the keystroke sequence, are gathered together into something called an Internet appliance (the set top box 104 of FIG. 1).

DeBoor et al. disclose a hand-held device (a "suitable device" is the Nokia 6100™,
30 DeBoor et al., col. 8, lines 47 – 50) that has many of the same characteristics as the

system illustrated in the appellants' FIG. 11, but includes most of the elements of claim 5 within a hand-held device ("wireless communication device" 100, DeBoor et al. FIG. 1), and as a result, uses a display screen that fits within the hand-held device. The appellants' claims 2, 14 and 15, on the other hand, separate the system into a hand-held user input device (for example, element 102 of the appellants' FIG. 1) and an Internet appliance (element 104 of FIG. 1, and element 1104 of FIG. 11), and includes no display means.

Allport (Abstract) discloses a remote control using IR (infrared) commands to control various consumer appliances, and has its own graphical display so it does not interfere with a TV or other viewing screen. The remote control is capable of interacting with the Internet or other data source (see also col. 4, lines 27 – 39 of US Patent No. 6,104,334 to Allport). Allport does **not** disclose a device that transmits video information to a standard television set—notwithstanding statements to the contrary at page 3 of the current Office action, wherein the Examiner characterizes Allport thusly: "However, Allport teaches a video output converter for converting an accessed display screen for display on an ordinary television set (Col. 1, Lines 18 – 23, Col. 4, Lines 5 – 10, Col. 8, Lines 17 – 57, Col. 27 Line 62 to Col. 28, Line 26)." One simple argument should support the position that Allport does not disclose a device that transmits video information: the Allport device uses IR (infrared) to communicate with the controlled consumer devices. It seems most unlikely that an IR channel can be successfully used to output video information sufficient for display on an ordinary television set. What the Allport remote control does is to output command sequences to the consumer devices, as do all IR remote controls.

It appears unlikely that a person having an ordinary level of skill in the art would be motivated to modify the wireless communication platform of the DeBoor et al. disclosure to (1) separate the user input keypad from the remainder of the system, necessitating use of a radio link to couple the separate parts, and having done so, to then (2) use a standard television set for display for what is essentially a hand-held device that has been separated into the two parts. But that's exactly what claim 1 does. Claim 1 does not include a source for the keystroke sequence, the sequence is an element of the claim. What claim 1 does is

illustrated in the appellants' FIG. 11. As can be clearly seen, claim 1 includes the keystroke sequence and does not include a source for the sequence.

The reason claim 1 has the structure it does is that the Internet appliance is part of a system installed in hotel rooms in which a hand-held TV remote or cell phone is typically used to control a set top box (the Internet appliance—specification from top of page 2 through page 4, line 7 and in the disclosures listed in the first paragraph of the specification and incorporated by reference at page 5, lines 5 and 6). The box uses the television set for display, and accesses other elements of the system via the Internet (for example, the user display screens, but also email, standard web pages, etc.) and permits the user to use the hand-held device and to edit and create text, send/receive email, browse the Internet, and display each of these things on the hotel room's television set. For the reasons set forth above, Allport does not suggest further modifying the DeBoor et al. device to output a video signal compatible with an ordinary television set.

The wireless communication device platform (and small screen) of the DeBoor et al. reference does not lend itself to this application. It's true that it could be modified to create the claim 1 structure (element 1104 of FIG. 11), but that is a significant modification. There would not appear to be sufficient motivation to undertake such a modification. Allport doesn't add anything to this mix. It comes as no surprise that a computer can use an ordinary television set as a display device. That was being done long before Allport.

For these reasons the appellants believe that claims 1 – 6, 10, 11, 14 and 15 are patentable over the cited references.

B. Claims 7 – 9, 12 and 13 are patentable over De Boor (US 6,675,204 B2) in view of Allport (US 6,104,334) as applied to claims 1 – 6, 10, 11, 14 and 15 above, and further in view of Mankovitz (US 5,949,492).

The appellants do not advance the position that the multiple-keystroke sequences of claims 7 – 9, nor the use of an infrared coupled hand-held remote unit to create a

keystroke sequence, as in claims 12 and 13, are original or worthy of patent protection by themselves. The Mankovitz reference teaches multiple-keystroke sequences for data entry, and separately the use of a hand-held user input device using an infrared coupling. Rather, claims 7 – 9, 12 and 13 depend directly or indirectly from claims 1, 2 and 6, which the appellants have argued above are patentable.

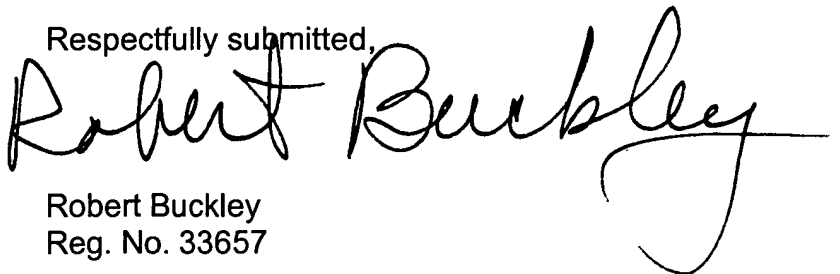
Therefore, the appellants believe claims 7 – 9, 12 and 13 are patentable over the cited references.

C. Claims 16 – 20 are patentable over De Boor et al. (US 6,675,204 B2) in view of Allport (US 6,104,334) as applied to claims 1 – 6, 10, 11, 14 and 15 above, and further in view of Yablon (US 5,764,731).

The Yablon reference teaches voice-to-text/control input. Claims 16 – 20 define the source of the keystroke sequence of claim 1 as being derived from a voice-to-text/control circuit (voice recognition means). The appellants believe claim 1 is patentable over the cited references, as they argue above. Claims 16 – 20 depend, directly or indirectly from claim 1.

Therefore, the appellants believe claims 16 – 20 are patentable over the cited references.

Respectfully submitted,


Robert Buckley
Reg. No. 33657

Appendix – Claims on Appeal

- 1 1. (previously amended) A system for text entry, text editing, and hyperlink navigation,
2 comprising:
 - 3 a reduced keyset keystroke sequence;
 - 4 a keystroke sequence receiver for receiving the sequence;
 - 5 a keystroke sequence parser for parsing the received sequence;
 - 6 an input text buffer for receiving the parsed sequence;
 - 7 storage means for storing and retrieving user interface display screens;
 - 8 a browser for accessing the display screens;
 - 9 a video output converter for converting an accessed display screen for display on an
10 ordinary television set;
 - 11 the accessed display screen including a hyperlink for option selection and for display
12 screen navigation,
 - 13 whereby a user enters a keystroke sequence for entering text, for editing text, for
14 selecting displayed options, and for navigating the user interface display screens.
- 1 2. (original) The system of claim 1 further including a reduced keyset user input device.
- 1 3. (original) The system of claim 1 further including display means connected to the video
2 output converter for displaying an accessed user interface display screen.
- 1 4. (original) The system of claim 1 further including communication network means
2 permitting the storage means to be connected to the browser via a communications
3 network.
- 1 5. (original) The system of claim 4 wherein the sequence receiver, the sequence parser,
2 the browser, the video output converter, and the communication network means define an
3 Internet appliance.

1 6. (original) The system of claim 1 wherein the reduced keyset keystroke sequence defines
2 text entry

1 7. (original) The system of claim 6 further including a first text input mode in which each
2 letter of the alphabet is defined as a two-keystroke sequence.

1 8. (original) The system of claim 7 wherein the letters are define by the following
2 sequences: the letter "a" by the sequence "2-1", the letter "b" by the sequence "2-2", the
3 letter "c" by the sequence "2-3", the letter "d" by the sequence "3-1", and so on for the
4 following correspondences: the letters "a-b-c" corresponding to sequences starting with the
5 number "2", "d-e-f" with the number "3", "g-h-i" with the number "4" and so on as the letters
6 of the alphabet correspond to the numbered keys of a standard telephone keypad.

1 9. (original) The system of claim 6 further including a second text input mode in which each
2 letter of the alphabet is defined as follows: the letter "a" by the sequence "2", the letter "b"
3 by the sequence "2-2", the letter "c" by the sequence "2-2-2", the letter "d" by the sequence
4 "3", the letter "e" by the sequence "3-3", and so on as the letters of the alphabet
5 correspond to the numbered keys of a standard telephone keypad, and wherein the input
6 sequence consists of a number of presses of the key corresponding to the letter being
7 input, and wherein the number of presses of the specific key corresponds to the position of
8 the letter within the letter group.

1 10. (original) The system of claim 1 wherein the reduced keyset keystroke sequence
2 defines special symbol input.

1 11. (original) The system of claim 1 wherein the reduced keyset keystroke sequence
2 defines a shortcut input.

- 1 12. (original) The system of claim 2 wherein the reduced keyset user input device defines a
2 hand-held remote control unit transmitting the keystroke sequence using an infra-red
3 transmitter.
- 1 13. (original) The system of claim 12 wherein the keystroke sequence receiver is adapted
2 for receiving an infra-red transmission.
- 1 14. (original) The system of claim 2 wherein the reduced keyset user input device defines a
2 standard wireless telephone transmitting the keystroke sequence using a radio signal.
- 1 15. (original) The system of claim 14 wherein the keystroke sequence receiver is adapted
2 for receiving a standard wireless telephone transmission.
- 1 16. (original) The system of claim 1 further including the keystroke sequence receiver being
2 adapted to accept a microphone input, and the system also including voice recognition
3 means for converting the microphone input to the parsed keystroke sequence.
- 1 17. (previously amended) The system of claim 16 wherein the voice recognition means
2 converts a plurality of spoken languages limited to spoken digits.
- 1 18. (original) The system of claim 16 further including microphone means for inputting
2 spoken digits.
- 1 19. (original) The system of claim 18 wherein the microphone means includes one of a
2 microphone, a standard telephone, and a wireless telephone.
- 1 20. (original) The system of claim 5 wherein the Internet appliance includes microphone
2 input means for receiving a reduced keyset keystroke sequence in the form of spoken
3 digits.